

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 AID-05 SSM-03 COME-00 EB-07
FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 EPG-02
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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
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SUBJECT: MEETING OF EGYPTIAN/SUDANESE PA COMMITTEES

REF: (A) CAIRO 7406, (B) CAIRO 10734

1. LOCAL PRESS GAVE RELATIVELY EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO JULY 11-12 JOINT MEETINGS OF SUDANESE AND EGYPTIAN PEOPLES ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES. FIRST SESSION ON JULY 11 REPORTEDLY REVIEWED PAST AGREEMENTS ENDORSED BY MAY 1977 HIGHER MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE, INCLUDING ABOLISHMENT VISA AND CUSTOMS REQUIREMENTS, CREATION NEW COMPANY FOR EXPLOITATION NATURAL RESOURCES, AND STUDIES ON UNIFICATION OF CURRENCIES. SUDANESE COMMITTEE REPORTEDLY RECOMMENDED DELINEATION OF AN AREA ON GOE/GOS BORDER FOR "ECONOMIC INTEGRATION", APPARENTLY A FREE ZONE AREA, AND COORDINATION OF INVESTMENT REGULATIONS.

2. JULY 12 SESSION, ACCORDING TO PRESS, FOCUSED ON FORMATION OF A JOINT INVESTMENT COMPANY AND AGREEMENT FOR PROTECTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF INVESTMENT IN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

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SIX OTHER AGREEMENTS (UNSPECIFIED) WERE ALSO REPORTEDLY UP FOR DEBATE. SESSION ENDED WITH STATEMENT BY SUDANESE CHAIRMAN OF PA COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCIAL/ ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, TAYEB MIRGHANY, PROCLAIMING "INEVITABILITY" OF EGYPTIAN AND SUDANESE UNIT AND NECESSITY TO ACHIEVE IT AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE THROUGH CAREFULL PLANNED ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL INTEGRATION. ACCORDING TO PRESS, FULL JOINT

MEETING OF LEGISLATURES WILL BE HELD IN CAIRO IN OCTOBER.

3. JULY 14 LOCAL PRESS REPORTS SUBMISSION TO GOE PA MAN-POWER COMMITTEE OF JOINT EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT PROPOSED BY SUDANESE PA DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC/FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE. DRAFT AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR FORMATION JOINT COMMITTEE COMPRISING MINIMUM OF FIVE REPRESENTATIVES FROM EACH COUNTRY. COMMITTEE WILL ORGANIZE AND FACILITATE EMPLOYMENT ON PROJECTS WHICH, ACCORDING TO A RULING BY EITHER GOVERNMENT, REQUIRE MANPOWER FROM THE OTHER. AGREEMENT ALSO REPORTEDLY STIPULATES THAT GOE AND GOS MINISTRIES OF MANPOWER WILL EXCHANGE INFORMATION ON MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS FOR PROJECTS AND WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SELECTION OF WORKERS FOR PROJECTS. EMPLOYMENT OFFERS WILL CLEARLY STATE NECESSARY QUALIFICATIONS, LABOR CONDITIONS, AND RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES AVAILABLE TO WORKERS. WORKERS WILL HAVE RIGHT TO TRANSFER PORTION OF THEIR EARNINGS TO FAMILIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS OF THE COUNTRY OF EMPLOYMENT. BOTH GOVERNMENTS WILL HAVE RIGHT TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES TO EXAMINE WORKERS' PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND TO RETURN WORKERS AFTER MEETING FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS TO THEM.

4. COMMENT: DESPITE EXTENT OF PRESS COVERAGE, RELATIVELY LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE WAS ACCOMPLISHED DURING SESSION, WHICH FOCUSED ON "REVIEW" OF PREVIOUS PROPOSALS. NEW PROPOSALS SEEM TO HAVE ORIGINATED WITH SUDANESE DELEGATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND IT APPARENT FROM TONE OF PRESS REPORTS THAT SUDANESE PRESSING HARD FOR SOME SORT OF INTEGRATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. EGYPTIAN STATEMENTS, ON OTHER HAND, SOMEWHAT LUKEWARM. NEVERTHELESS, SOME PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE, ESPECIALLY IN AREAS OF VISA AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS. EXTENSIVE PRESS ATTENTION TO SESSIONS ALSO INDICATIVE THAT GOE NOT TOTALLY INDIFFERENT TO UNIFICATION CONCEPT. IN ADDITION, APPARENT AGREEMENT ON HOLDING EARLY JOINT SESSION PA'S MAY BE SIGNAL TO LIBYA AND SYRIA AND GOE AND GOS PREPARED TO SET UP NEW CONFEDERAL FRAMEWORK OUTSIDE LANGUISHING SYRIAN/EGYPTIAN/LIBYAN CONFEDERATION FOUNDED 1971 (REFTEL B).
EILTS

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